GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:522
ANSWERED ON:20.07.2016
Chengalpet-Arakkonam Railway Line
Senguttuvan Shri Balasubramaniam

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chengalpet-Arakkonam railway line has been remaining incomplete for well over two years and if so, the reasons for the long pendency of this project;

(b) whether objection was received from the navy that electrification of railway line from Thakkolam to Arakkonam on Chengalpet-Arakkonam line, since it lies adjacent to the Rajali Naval Base, would pose security-related issues to the naval station, and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether alternate route avoiding Thakkolam has been finalized by the southern railway in view of the objections raised by the navy and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any compensation amount was agreed to be given by the Ministry of Defence to the Railways for the said deviation and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the timeframe by which the project would be completed entirely and the suburban train services would commence operation?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)
(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.
*****

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 522 BY SHRI B. SENGUTTUVAN TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 20.07.2016 REGARDING CHENGALPET-ARAKKONAM RAILWAY LINE.

(a) to (c) : Gauge conversion between Chengalpattu-Arakkonam has been completed and commissioned. Electrification of one block section between Thakkolam-Arakkonam portion could not be executed due to objections from the Naval Authorities as electrification of the line near Rajali Naval Base could not be taken up on account of security issues. Therefore, it has been decided to take up construction of Thakkolam-Arakkonam in diverted alignment with its electrification.
(d): The work of diversion of broad gauge line was agreed by Naval Authorities on deposit terms at an initial cost of ` 25.73 crore and ` 23.75 crore had been deposited by Naval Authorities. However, due to delay in land acquisition by State Government, the cost has escalated and Revised Estimate was prepared at a cost of ` 54.57 crore and accepted and sanctioned by Naval Authorities. Thus, Naval Authorities have to deposit balance amount of ` 30.82 crore with the Railways.
(e): No time frame for completion of the work has been fixed.
******